

Minutes of the Tuesday, August 4, 2009 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 8:20 pm on Tuesday August 4, 2009 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott, S. Carroll, P. Collington, F. Esposito, S. Hoag, W. O'Connor Twp. Liaison. Also, CTEC Associate Member Andreanna Field (and Green Team's "Food & Gardens Subcommittee" Member)

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2009 was posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building, mentioned on the Township web site, and published in the newspapers Chatham Courier and Daily Record. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings and participate in projects.

Minutes

APPROVE CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MINUTES FROM MEETING OF JUNE 2, 2009.

F. Esposito motioned to approve the Green Team minutes from June 2, 2009, P. Collington 2nd with all in favor.

P. Collington motioned to approve the EC minutes from June 2, 2009, S. Hoag 2nd with all in favor.

REMAINING MEETING DATES FOR 2009 AND JANUARY 2010

Every first Tuesday: Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 in 2009, and Jan 5, 2010.

GREEN TEAM MEETING

TC resolution approving Green Team. TC resolution approving grant application for Sustainability Element for the Master Plan. TC resolution appointing a contractor for a municipal energy audit. TC resolution approving the sustainable land use pledge. Report on progress on the two mandatory Sustainability requirements. S. Carroll, Green Team Chair.

EVENTS

Green Fair Sat. September 12th, 9-3 – check twp website

Twp. Recycling & ReUse Event, Sat., Oct 3, 9am –noon

REPORTS/DISCUSSION

• **Chatham High School parking lot proposed expansion-Discussion.** On July 20 the Chatham Township Planning Board heard from Mr. Goodwin, SDOC Administrator, about SDOC's plan to increase parking. The planning board expressed many concerns.

Action Item: CTEC may consider sending a letter of advisement to the School District of The Chathams-Board of Ed, because the SDOC has stated that they have already begun to take steps to address the issue of accommodating the increased student population. In the letter, CTEC can advise the SDOC of "sustainability" matters that should be considered and environmental considerations that must be taken into consideration when planning expansion, construction, etc. CTEC can include and refer to Chatham Township's "construction planning booklet" which has stormwater mgmt tips and refers to laws and regulations, etc.

• **Fertilizer on Colony Pool lawns-Discussion.** Possible donation of a rain garden. Requesting to install "Pesticide Free Area" signs. K. Abbott

• **Recycling & ReUse Subcommittee Report:** approval received for expanding the Township's Recycling Program. All types of batteries (excluding car) and printer cartridges now accepted. Recycling bins will be located within the township. S. Hoag, Chair.

• **New projection screen for meeting room-Discussion.** R. Barrett.

• **EC Web Site Subcommittee Report:** approval granted for change, will set up meeting date to initiate revised site. F. Esposito, Chair.

• **Open Space Advisory Committee Report:** No meeting in July. Hike/bike path approved for master plan. S. Hoag, Liaison.

• **Township Committee Report:** Southern Blvd firehouse demolished. New ordinance approved on regulations of clothing bins. W. O'Connor, Liaison.

• **Community Education and Outreach Report:** Green Fair September 12th --work proceeding. Thanks to CTEC Members who can volunteer for CTEC booth.

• **NJDEP "Local Governments Greenhouse Gas Reduction" Grant.** Pre App and documentation has been prepared by CTEC Associate Member Jen Matthews, and CTEC Members P. Collington and K. Abbott. The Pre App must be submitted to NJDEP by the Twp Administrator— CTEC emailed such to Tom Ciccarone already. This CTEC Community Education & Outreach Project is called "Slow Your Throw"

Discussion: **PSEG Corridor** – Area completely cleared n out, possibly used some type of chemical, all vegetation gone. K. Abbott to contact PSEG to see what was used.

APPLICATION/LOI REVIEW

- NEW. BRILL/THE FARM AT GREEN VILLAGE. 503 Green Village Road. 5-14-09. Block 48.18, Lots 140, 142, 143. Application to the Board of Adjustment for demolition and removal of an existing dilapidated shed and lean-to and replacement with a new barn, renovation and expansion of the farmhouse with a second story rear addition, construction of a new outdoor restroom facility. The business is entitled to continue and expand as a nonconforming use protected under the Right to Farm Act. Stream may need wider buffers because of new riparian ordinance, stormwater concerns, possibility of fertilizer going into stream and pond. Property drains directly into the Great Swamp. Waivers requested for EIS (should include information on quality of current surface water), 2 to 5-foot contours to determine the natural drainage of the land, soil types and height of water table, drainage calculations for drainage facilities.
- NEW. PSE&G PROPERTY ON SOUTHERN BOULEVARD. 6-4-09. Block 48.14, Lot 110. Verizon Wireless. Application to Board of Adjustment for preliminary and final site plan approval and use variance for transmission equipment and shed. They plan to add equipment to the top of the transmission tower behind the gazebo and to build equipment shed at the rear of the gazebo parking area between the gazebo and the tower. The area is wet but heavily disturbed. Application for LOI, GP2 (utility crossing) & Special Activity Transition Area Waiver for Redevelopment has been submitted to the NJDEP. Possibility of requesting a vegetated retention basin behind proposed shed. O. Radaam, D. Stillinger.
- PENDING. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 6-26-09. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to Board of Adjustment for preliminary and final site plan approval and conditional use approval for a school in a residential zone. No construction is proposed. S. Hoag, F. Esposito, D. Stillinger.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- June 2009. Letter in support of the Garden State Preservation Trust appearing on the November ballot to legislators via e-mail and paper. E-mail to Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts, Senate President Richard Codey, Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblywoman Nellie Pou, Assemblyman Alex DeCroce and paper copies to Governor Jon Corzine, Senator Thomas H. Kean, Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick, Assemblywoman Nancy F. Munoz.

MAIL RECEIVED (not including applications and notices mentioned above)

- Letter from Governor Corzine's office thanking CTEC for its letter in support of the Garden State Preservation Trust ballot initiative.
- Minutes of Long Hill EC and Chatham Borough EC, various newsletters, event announcements, and flyers.

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:35 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli, Minutes Secretary